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Docket No.: 0365-0568P

Application No. 10/627,867
Amendment dated March 6, 2008
Reply to Office Action of November 13, 2007

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) A stereotactic device, comprising:
a frame configured to be mounted onto a nasion of a subject being examined and extending frontally below the eyes of the subject to end positions of the frame that are in front of the face of the subject and outside a field of vision of the subject; and

at least three fiducial markers mounted on the frame and configured to define a position of the frame with respect to the subject,

wherein the frame contacts the subject only on a nose of the subject and is located only in front of the face of the subject when the frame is mounted onto the subject such that a head of the patient is not immobilized.

27. (Previously Presented) The stereotactic device of claim 26, wherein the frame comprises a localizing bow having a wavy shape and a stiff structure.

28. (Previously Presented) The stereotactic device of claim 26, wherein the frame includes at least one nasion relator portion configured to support the nasion of the subject.

29. (Previously Presented) The stereotactic device of claim 28, wherein the nasion relator portion comprises a shape that is substantially compliant with the nasion of the subject,

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whereby the stereotactic device provides sufficient free space to accommodate the use of eyeglasses simultaneously with the stereotactic device.

30. (Previously Presented) The stereotactic device of claim 28, further comprising:
a nose piece compliant with a contour of the subject's nose and configured to be fitted into the nasion relator portion of the frame.

31. (Previously Presented) The stereotactic device of claim 30, wherein the nose piece is replaceable for each different subject to be examined.

32. (Previously Presented) The stereotactic device of claim 26, further comprising:
a supporting element attached to the end positions of the frame and configured to secured the stereotactic device to the subject being examined.

33. (Previously Presented) The stereotactic device of claim 32, wherein the supporting element passes behind the subject's head, neck or shoulders.

34. (Previously Presented) The stereotactic device of claim 32, wherein the supporting element comprises an adjustable band.

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35. (Previously Presented) The stereotactic device of claim 26, wherein the at least three fiducial markers are mounted on the frame at a front side of the nasion relator portion and at the end portions of the frame.

36. (Previously Presented) The stereotactic device of claim 26, wherein the frame extends substantially parallel to the face of the subject to the end positions of the frame that are in front of the face of the subject and outside the field of vision of the subject.

37. (Currently Amended) A diagnostic method, comprising:

mounting a stereotactic frame onto a nasion of a subject being examined, said stereotactic frame extending frontally below the eyes of the subject to end positions of said stereotactic frame that are in front of the face of the subject and outside a field of vision of the subject;

defining a position of the stereotactic frame with respect to the subject via at least three fiducial markers mounted on the frame; and

performing a diagnosis of the subject based on the defined position of the stereotactic frame with respect to the subject,

wherein the frame contacts the subject only on a nose of the subject and is located only in front of the face of the subject when the frame is mounted onto the subject such that a head of the subject is not immobilized.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the frame comprises a localizing bow having a wavy shape and a stiff structure.

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39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the frame includes at least one nasion relator portion configured to support the nasion of the subject.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, wherein the nasion relator portion comprises a shape that is substantially compliant with the nasion of the subject, whereby the stereotactic device provides sufficient free space to accommodate the use of eyeglasses simultaneously with the stereotactic device.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, further comprising:
fitting a nose piece compliant with a contour of the subject's nose into the nasion relator portion of the frame.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the nose piece is replaceable for each different subject to be examined.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37, further comprising:
securing the stereotactic device to the subject being examined via a supporting element attached to the end positions of the frame.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the supporting element passes behind the subject's head, neck or shoulders.

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45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the supporting element comprises an adjustable band.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the at least three fiducial markers are mounted on the frame at a front side of the nasion relator portion and at the end portions of the frame.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the frame extends substantially parallel to the face of the subject to the end positions of the frame that are in front of the face of the subject and outside the field of vision of the subject.